

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

091312Z Jun 04

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 001829

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/FO, NEA/I, NEA/ARP  
TEL AVIV FOR DCM LEBARON  
RIYADH FOR TUELLER  
TUNIS FOR NATALIE BROWN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/07/2014

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [1Z](#) [KU](#)

SUBJECT: (C) SECRETARY'S ORAL MESSAGE ON ELECTRICITY FOR  
IRAQ DELIVERED TO FM

REF: A. STATE 121610

[1](#)B. KUWAIT 1303

Classified By: CDA FRANK URBANCIC; REASON 1.4 (B, D).

[1](#)1. (C) Charge delivered ref A oral message from the  
Secretary to Foreign Minister Shaykh Dr. Mohammed Sabah

SIPDIS

al-Salem al-Sabah June 7, after MFA advised that Prime  
Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmed would not be available (other  
topics septels). The Minister listened attentively and  
promised to relay the message, but his first reaction was "we  
have had blackouts (of our own)." He recalled that the  
Energy Minister had briefed the Cabinet just the previous day  
that Kuwaiti electricity consumption had hit a high of 7.3  
MW; total capacity was 9 MW, but this was not considered  
excess.

[1](#)2. (C) Charge reminded Dr. Mohammed that there is a Kuwaiti  
project to build power lines to carry Kuwaiti power into Iraq  
in the belief that Kuwait does have some excess capacity, and  
that for the longer term, there is a proposal by JHS to build  
a plant on the Kuwaiti side of the border to supply power to  
both countries. That latter project has apparently been  
refused by the GOK, according to information from the  
Undersecretary of Electricity (ref A). The Minister replied  
that it has not been refused; a Free Trade Zone envisaged at  
Abdali on the Kuwait-Iraq border will require electricity,  
and the plan includes a private-sector plant, part of whose  
output could go to Iraq (in a separate conversation June 8,  
however, the Kuwaiti JHS partner confirmed to Charge that the  
project is now back on track). According to Dr. Mohammed,  
the Minister of Trade is very excited about this.

[1](#)3. (U) Baghdad minimize considered.  
URBANCIC